

Veritas View

Sighisoara, Romania

Fall 2022

Summer vacation at Veritas

From June 15 to August 2 children and teenagers from two clubs of Veritas Foundation spent a wonderful holiday with our staff. Activities and programs were held to stimulate their emotional and cognitive intelligence.

Theater, music and dance competitions were initiated. The first table tennis championship was held at the Veritas Center, where the young people participated along with our beneficiaries. We organized excursions around Sighisoara, where we discovered the nature of this beautiful city. We went up to Villa Franca to Adventure Parc, where our teenagers competed among themselves. Some overcame their fears, others discovered their courage. Most importantly, they worked as a team, encouraging each other and overcoming obstacles, and succeeding together. We also visited Sighisoara Fortress, where we interacted with tourists and locals.

At the end of the holiday program, we visited the Dino Park in Râsnov, Braşov, where we got acquainted with the extinct civilization of dinosaurs, watched movies about the period when they lived, and visited all the exhibits in the park's forest. We spent a beautiful day together, returning home full of joy and with knowledge gained from this trip.

During the summer holidays children and teens played table tennis, explored their city, challenged themselves at an adventure park and learned about dinosaurs.



The International Café changes its name to House on the Rock Café

After eight years as manager of the International Café, Codruța Vanceanu has retired and Adela Hermann was hired as the new manager. She is familiar with House on the Rock, as she worked there for 8 years as the coordinator of educational programs for Veritas. After a two-year maternity leave, Adela decided to take over the café, following an old dream. After working in the cafe for 15 years, Mihaela Nagy and Voichita Lorincz have left. Adela has hired new staff members, Alina Maior and Emanuela Radu. Adela, along with Casey Bloom, Nazarene volunteer, are driven by the original vision for Casa de pe Stanca: to be a "Lighthouse" for the children and young people of the community. They have put a lot of effort into designing the space and the menu, and reaching out to young people who are loyal customers.

House on the Rock

In past issues of this newsletter, we wrote about the opening of a museum on the top three floors of the House on the Rock building. Because of the Covid pandemic and the huge drop in tourist traffic to the citadel in the past two years the museum has closed. We are very disappointed, as it fit so well with the original goals of the House on the Rock to provide educational opportunities to the community.

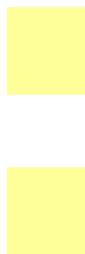


Ukrainian Children at House of the Rock

Now, in partnership with Nazarene Compass we are providing two classrooms and a dining room at House of the Rock for Ukrainian children to help them integrate into the community.



Adela Hermann, the new manager of The House of the Rock Café welcomes people to the cozy space

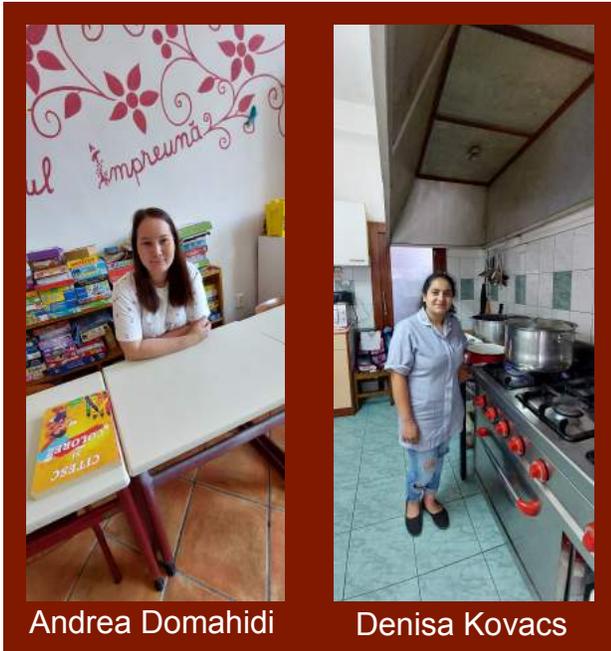


Latest news on Ukrainian refugees

As we wrote in our last newsletter, we accommodated four Ukrainian refugees, one man, two women and a child in the Historical Building of Veritas Foundation. In June, Vlodimir returned to Ukraine. Because one of the refugee women was expecting a baby in August and we wanted to provide a more homey environment for them, they have moved into an apartment provided by the Church of the Nazarene in Sighisoara.

Following a request from PATRIR, the Romanian Peace Institute and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency in Romania, represented by Bethany Serengheu, UNHCR project manager, Veritas has rented PATRIR a historic building on the Veritas Center campus. This space will be used as a support hub for the protection of the Ukrainian community in Sighisoara. We hope for a good and long-lasting collaboration.

New staff join Veritas team



Andrea Domahidi

Denisa Kovacs

Andrea Domahidi started her position as coordinator of the Kid's Club in April 2022. She was born in Sighisoara and studied at the Faculty of Letters and Arts in Sibiu, Romanian-French section. Before coming to Veritas, she was employed at the Metro-Ministries Foundation working both in summer and winter programs. In March she joined Veritas Foundation as a volunteer and soon became part of our team. She loves working with children and easily connects with any child. Andrea is feeling "at home" at Veritas Foundation because of the kids, the friendly colleagues and the particularly welcoming environment. In her spare time she enjoys photography, travelling and listening to music.

Denisa Kovacs lives in Sighisoara and is a graduate of Technological High School no.1, specializing in sales and marketing. She started working at Veritas Foundation in May 2022, as a cook's assistant. She lived abroad for a while, where she worked in different areas, including the kitchen. She is happily married and has one daughter. She spends her free time with her family and whenever she has the opportunity she enjoys listening to music.

Special visits to Veritas

After three years of restrictions due to the pandemic and then the war in Ukraine, we were blessed to have Jan Hockensmith and George Laun spend three weeks with us in April. Jan helped sort materials and set up rooms for teaching materials, led devotional times and treated the elderly and those with special needs to sweets. George helped with furniture restoration, hanging quilts, and, together with Jan, helped welcome the first Ukrainian refugees.

In May, Lisa Snowden came to Sighisoara for the first time. She has worked in Human Resources for many years and led four workshops for staff: Communicating with Others, Relating to Others, Managing Time and Tasks, and Getting Results Through Others. She provided valuable information that helped all staff to know themselves better and provide more clarity for the tasks they have to manage.

Morag Moffat visited us in September for two weeks. She has been a great supporter of the Veritas Foundation for about 20 years as a teacher and instructor of English, German, French and Romanian. In her time with us, she provided a brief training to the Foundation staff. She was in charge of sorting out the English and Romanian learning materials and gave a beautiful lecture on active listening combined with biblical teachings. We received guidance about how to use the available resources, which contain valuable information about pre-literacy, and literacy.

Sue Bright also visited us in September. She is one of our loyal supporters, who brings a lot of energy and commitment to our cause.



Hands of Mercy

Hands of Mercy is the Dutch foundation which has been helping us for many years with donations of clothes and shoes, that we are selling in the Veritas Bazaar. The money we make covers part of the expenses for the programs of the Veritas Community Day Center. After the appeal we made on our Facebook page to help children of the Veritas to go back to school, Hands of Mercy responded to us promptly by making a donation of 1000 Euros. We are grateful to Hands of Mercy and to all our donors for their generosity.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for our staff to grow in faith and wisdom.
- Pray for the projects that we are running and for the peace and wisdom of our leaders.

You can help us

- To repair and add a 3-seater banquette for our minibus, we need \$1000.
- We are also concerned about utility costs during the cold season, because prices have doubled from last year, therefore, we are trying to obtain funding for our project to install solar panels and reduce energy costs.

All donations are tax deductible.

Online donations can be made at <https://give.ncm.org/donate/134477>

You can mail your donations to NCM (Nazarene Compassionate Ministries). Put "Veritas Romania" in the memo line and mail to: Nazarene Compassionate Ministries PO Box 843116 Kansas City, MO 64184

In the UK, donations can be sent to the Titus Trust, c/o Dr. Paul Tarrant, 129 Mains Drive, Erskine, Renfrewshire, PA8 7JJ or directly to the Titus Trust (IBAN GB85 BOFS80-13- 53 06 0009 36) Bank of Scotland, Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Erskine, Renfrewshire, PA8 7AA.

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